Targeted Immune Modulators

Key Questions and Inclusion Criteria

Update #3

Key Questions

- 1. How do included drugs compare in their efficacy and long-term effectiveness for alleviating symptoms and stabilizing the disease in patients with rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, psoriatic arthritis, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, or plaque psoriasis?
- 2. What are the comparative incidence and severity of harms associated with the use of these drugs?
- 3. Do the included drugs differ in effectiveness or harms in the following subgroups:
 - Different genders, or different racial, age or socioeconomic groups?
 - Patients with co-morbidities?
 - Patients taking other commonly prescribed drugs?
 - Patients with early aggressive vs. persistent rheumatoid arthritis

Inclusion criteria

Population

- Adult patients with moderately to severe rheumatoid arthritis
- Pediatric patients with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis
- Adult patients with ankylosing spondylitis
- Adult and pediatric patients with psoriatic arthritis
- Adult and pediatric patients with Crohn's disease
- Adult and pediatric patients with ulcerative colitis
- Adult and pediatric patients with plaque psoriasis

Interventions

Anti TNF

- Adalimumab (Humira[®])
- Etanercept (Enbrel®)
- Certolizumab Pegol (Cimzia[®])
- Golimumab (Simponi[®])
- Infliximab (Remicade[®])

Interleukin-1 Receptor antagonist

• Anakinra (Kineret[®])

Anti-CD11a

• Alefacept (Amevive[®])

Cytotoxic T lymphocyte antigen immunoglobulin (CTLA 4-Ig)

• Abatacept (Orencia®)

Anti - CD 20a

• Rituximab (Rituxan®)

Anti - IgG4

• Natalizumab (Tysabri[®])

Anti - IL6

• Tocilizumab (Actemra[®], RoActemra[®])

Anti-IL 12/23

• Ustekinumab (Stelara®)

Effectiveness outcomes

- Quality of Life
- Functional capacity
- Employability, productivity
- Clinical improvement (e.g. ACR, DAS, BASFI, PASI)
- Disease remission
- Pain
- Reduction in the number of swollen or tender joints
- Hospitalizations
- Mortality
- Rebound
- Joint destruction (i.e. radiographic progression)
- Steroid withdrawal

Harms

- Overall adverse events
- Withdrawals due to adverse events
- Serious adverse events reported
- Specific adverse events (e.g. lymphoma, serious infectious diseases, congestive heart failure)

Study design

- For effectiveness, controlled clinical trials, controlled prospective cohort studies, and good quality systematic reviews
- For harms, in addition to controlled clinical trials, observational studies will be included.